



Kurt E. Floren
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Department of Agricultural Commissioner/ Weights and Measures

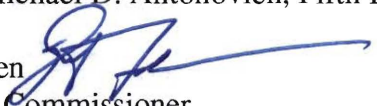
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Arcadia, California 91006-5872
<http://acwm.lacounty.gov>



Richard K. Iizuka
Chief Deputy

DATE: April 4, 2012

TO: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman, Third District
Supervisor Gloria Molina, First District
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District
Supervisor Don Knabe, Fourth District
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Fifth District

FROM: Kurt E. Floren 
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures

SUBJECT: **STATUS OF HACIENDA HEIGHTS CITRUS GREENING DISEASE AND
ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID SITUATION – QUARANTINE ENACTED**

Since my previous update dated Friday, March 30, we have continued to work with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to limit potential losses to commercial and residential citrus due to the citrus disease known as huanglongbing (HLB), or citrus greening.

To date, only a single tree has been confirmed to have been infected with HLB. There have been no new confirmations of other sites being infected. An intensive survey of local citrus trees, including trapping, visual assessments, and collection of samples of Asian Citrus Psyllids (ACP) and plant tissue is ongoing in an effort to determine the source and extent of the HLB infestation.

A 93 square-mile quarantine area has now been established; 90 square miles are in the County of Los Angeles (see attached map) with an area of 3 square miles extending into Orange County. The quarantine facilitates controls against the potential spread of HLB. I sent a letter on Friday, March 30, to California Secretary of Food and Agriculture, Karen Ross, concurring with her recommendation to establish the quarantine, placing restrictions on the movement of citrus trees, citrus plant parts, green waste, and all citrus fruit except that which is commercially cleaned and packed. One component of the quarantine requires that citrus and closely related plants at nurseries in the area are placed on hold, affecting approximately twenty nurseries within the county. Four Certified Farmers Markets and two Certified Producers in the quarantine area will be impacted by restrictions on citrus movement. We are working with CDFA in coordinating notification and appropriate actions to address and implement those restrictions.
(Please see attached map and press release issued late yesterday afternoon)

As I stated in my previous update, to discuss the treatment project and provide direct answers to questions from area residents, an open house meeting will be held tomorrow, Thursday, April 5, at Industry Hills Expo Center, The Avalon Room, 16200 Temple Avenue, City of Industry from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. I, together with members of my staff, CDFA representatives, and USDA representatives will be in attendance. Notifications have been provided to all residents within the 800 meter radius area surrounding the find site and such has been widely disseminated through press releases, media coverage, and through communications by Fourth District staff.
(Please see attached notice)

CDFA is making arrangements to commence treatment on Monday, April 9 of citrus trees within 800 meters of the detection site. Treatment includes applying the pesticides cyfluthrin and imidacloprid to host plants and soil utilizing hand-held sprayers. CDFA is informing each property resident prior to such treatment. No aerial applications are being considered. Staff of ACWM's Environmental Protection Bureau, Pesticide Use Enforcement Program, will be performing monitoring of applications and enforcement of pesticide use laws and regulations.
(Please see attached map of treatment and notification areas)

Along with my staff, I have been working with news media outlets to further inform the public about these efforts and how residents can help fight the spread of HLB and prevent the introduction of other pests.

Please note that residents may be directed to call the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Pest Hotline at 1-800-491-1899 if they believe that they have found a specimen of ACP, any other exotic insect pest, or observed symptoms of HLB.

We will continue to inform the respective City Managers and your Board offices in the areas involved to enable staff to answer questions from the public.

I will continue to update you as details become available and warrant an update.

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Georgia Mattera, Public Safety Cluster
Sachi Hamai, Executive Officer
Board Deputies

News Release

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Media Contacts:

Steve Lyle, CDFA Public Affairs, (916) 654-0462, style@cdfa.ca.gov



Quarantine for Huanglongbing Declared in Hacienda Heights Section of Los Angeles County



Release #12-013

A 93-square mile quarantine is in place in the Hacienda Heights section of Los Angeles County following the detection of the citrus disease huanglongbing, or citrus greening.

Additional information, including a map of the quarantine zone, is available at http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/PE/InteriorExclusion/acp_quarantine.html#hlbmaps. The zone is centered near the Pomona Freeway (Highway 60) and Hacienda Blvd. and extends south into a small portion of Orange County, north into Baldwin Park and West Covina, west into South El Monte and Whittier, and east into Walnut and Rowland Heights.

This area is part of a much larger quarantine already in place for the Asian citrus psyllid, the pest that spreads bacteria causing huanglongbing. The new quarantine will prohibit the movement of all nursery stock out of the area, while maintaining existing provisions allowing the movement of only commercially cleaned and packed citrus fruit. Any fruit that is not commercially cleaned and packed, including residential citrus, must not be removed from the property on which it is grown, although it may be processed and/or consumed on the premises.

"The success of any quarantine depends on cooperation from those affected," said CDFA Secretary Karen Ross. "The stakes couldn't be higher for California citrus. We urge residents in the Hacienda Heights-area to do all they can to comply."

Because the latency period for the development of huanglongbing symptoms in an infected tree can be two years, the quarantine is expected to last at least that long. CDFA, the USDA and the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner's continue their work to investigate the source of the disease, to survey and test for it throughout the Los Angeles Basin, and to prepare for ground treatment of citrus trees within 800 meters of the find site - tentatively scheduled to begin next week. In the long term, the strategy is to control the spread of Asian citrus psyllids while researchers work to find a cure for the disease.

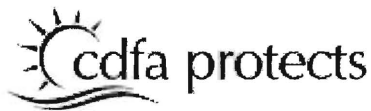
Huanglongbing was confirmed last week in an Asian citrus psyllid sample and plant material taken from a lemon/pummelo tree in a residential neighborhood in the Hacienda Heights area of Los Angeles County. The disease is bacterial and attacks the vascular system of plants. It does not pose a threat to humans or animals. The Asian citrus psyllid can spread the bacteria as the pest feeds on citrus trees and other plants. Once a tree is infected, there is no cure; it typically declines and dies within a few years.

Huanglongbing is known to be present in Mexico and in parts of the southern U.S. Florida first detected the

pest in 1998 and the disease in 2005, and the two have now been detected in all 30 citrus-producing counties in that state. The University of Florida estimates the disease has tallied more than 6,600 lost jobs, \$1.3 billion in lost revenue to growers and \$3.6 billion in lost economic activity. The pest and the disease are also present in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia and South Carolina. The states of Arizona, Mississippi and Alabama have detected the pest but not the disease.

The Asian citrus psyllid was first detected in California in 2008 and is known to exist in Ventura, San Diego, Imperial, Orange, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Bernardino and Riverside counties. If Californians believe they have seen evidence of huanglongbing in local citrus trees, they are asked to please call CDFA's toll-free pest hotline at 1-800-491-1899. For more information on the Asian citrus psyllid and huanglongbing, please visit: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/acp/>

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916-654-0462, www.cdfa.ca.gov



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

**OFFICIAL NOTICE
PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY**

**OPEN HOUSE MEETING ON THE TREATMENT PLANS AGAINST THE
ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID DETECTED IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD**

**Meeting – Thursday, April 5, 2012
5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.
Industry Hills Expo Center
The Avalon Room
16200 Temple Avenue
City of Industry, CA 91744**

The Asian citrus psyllid (ACP), a serious insect pest in California, has been detected in your neighborhood. The ACP is a tiny, flying insect that transmits a bacterial disease called huanglongbing (HLB) to citrus trees. Trees infected with the HLB disease produce bitter and misshapen fruit. The HLB disease is fatal to citrus trees. The ACP is a threat to California's backyard and commercially grown citrus. Emergency treatment and quarantine action is needed to protect California from the negative economic and environmental impacts the establishment of this pest throughout California would cause.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture consulted with scientists who are experts in the biology of this pest. These experts have recommended a treatment plan designed to mitigate the infestation.

Limited ground treatments with a formulation of a pyrethroid will be applied to the foliage of citrus trees on your property. At the same time, an imidacloprid insecticide will be applied to the soil beneath the citrus trees for ongoing protection against the ACP.

Residents of properties scheduled for treatment will be notified at least 48 hours prior to the application. Included in this packet is a map outlining the project area.

To inform you of planned activities, residents of the affected area are invited to attend an open house meeting on Thursday, April 5, 2012, between 5:30pm and 7:00pm at the Industry Hills Expo Center, Avalon Room, in the City of Industry. The open house will not feature a formal presentation; rather, it will be staffed by cooperating agency officials familiar with this program who will be able to individually address your concerns and answer any questions. Please feel free to stop by at any time during the scheduled 5:30pm to 7:00pm time frame.

Your cooperation with this program is needed to rid California of this harmful invading pest while it is still possible. If you cannot attend this important meeting and require additional information, please contact our toll-free PEST HOTLINE at (800) 491-1899 for further assistance.

ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID OPEN HOUSE MEETING

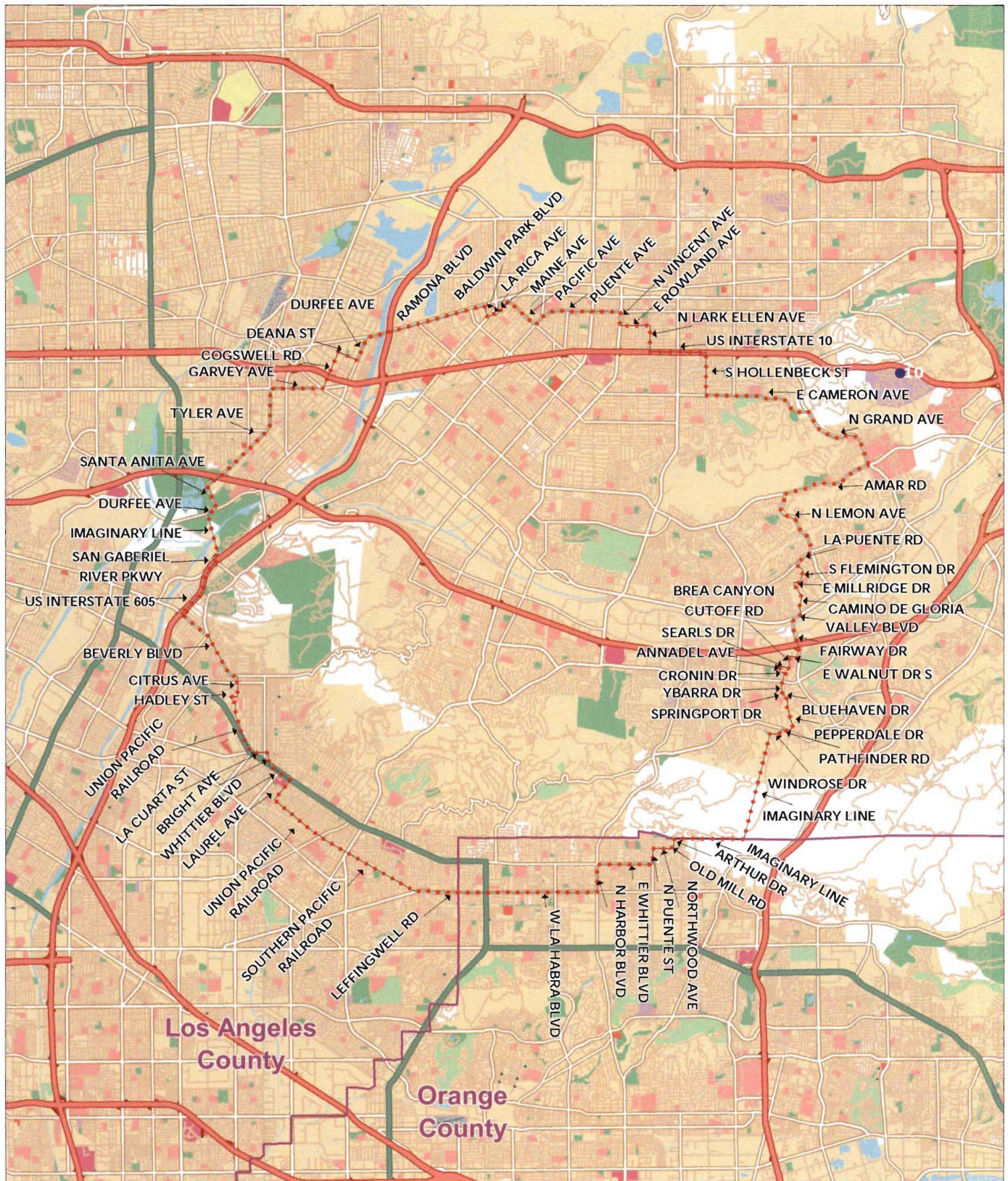
THURSDAY - APRIL 5, 2012

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM



**THE AVALON ROOM
INDUSTRY HILLS EXPO CENTER
16200 TEMPLE AVENUE
CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91744**

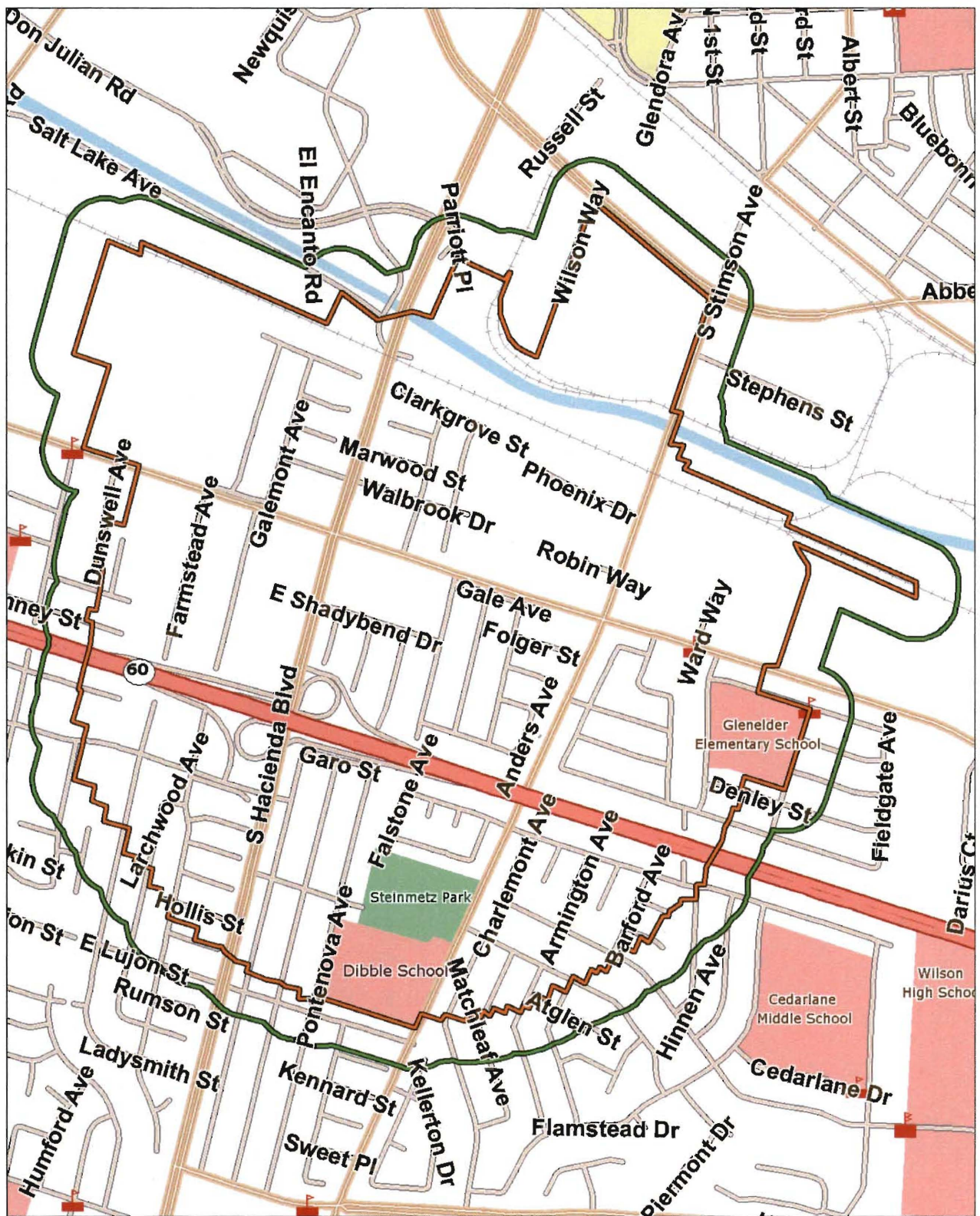
Huanglongbing (HLB)
Los Angeles/Orange County
2012



93 sq Miles
3 sq Miles Orange County
90 sq Miles Los Angeles County

--- QUARANTINE BOUNDARY
--- County Boundary

**ASIAN CITRUS PSYLLID
HACIENDA HEIGHTS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY
2012**



——— 800M TREATMENT BOUNDARY
——— NOTIFICATION BOUNDARY

+++++ RAIL ROAD
——— FREEWAY/EXPY
——— STREET